



City of Beacon

Parking and Traffic Safety Committee

City Hall

1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon, NY 12508

Minutes

March 25, 2021 at 9 am

➤ **Old Business**

1. Fishkill Ave. Convex Mirror
2. Washington Ave. and Helen Ct.
3. East Main St. and Spring Valley St.
4. Matteawan Rd.
5. Washington Ave., Spring St., and East Main St.
6. Washington Ave., and Helen Ct.

➤ **New Business**

1. Rombout Ave. and West Center St.

1. Fishkill Avenue Convex Mirror

See the message below from a resident.

I am writing to request a convex mirror be placed on a telephone pole opposite our driveway. We are located on Fishkill Avenue and we are not able to see oncoming traffic until we are halfway into the street which is very unsettling. If you could tell me how to go about sending this request to the most appropriate place, I would greatly appreciate it. I have contacted the Vehicles and Traffic department and Dutchess County but I am not having any luck.

October: The Committee directed Collin Milone to write a letter to the resident. The letter recommends the resident reach out to Central Hudson as the pole itself belongs to Central Hudson. Secondly, the letter recommends reaching out to New York State Department of Transportation to determine the legality of putting a convex mirror up on New York State Route 52.

January: The resident took the advice from the Committee and reached out to both Central Hudson and NYS DOT. See NYS DOT's response regarding the convex mirror request:

"Mirrors for use on driveways or side streets are not permitted on state highways. Drivers can become over-reliant upon them and the headlights at night can cause glare distractions or misconceptions to traveling motorists.

The address cited is on the arterial portion of Route 52 at the city maintains so I would need to research further who's decision this would be, but we do not recommend that be allowed at this location. With the curve in the roadway and the adjacent side street intersections, reflections of headlights at night to other traffic would be a safety concern. I drive this neighborhood regularly at night and glare is already an issue for turning motorists. The best solutions for this drive would be to lower the hedges below driver eye height and for the owner to build a small "T" hammerhead turn around in the front yard so that the owner can turn the car around in the driveway."

January continued: The Committee referred this to the lead Building Inspector, Dave Buckley, and will review again in February.

February: The Committee will follow up with Dave Buckley for his comments.

March and April: Statement from Dave Buckley, Building Inspector "The only time hedges and plantings are regulated for site distance is on a corner lot so in this case there is no enforcement action to be taken."

2. Washington Avenue & Helen Ct.

See the message from a resident below:

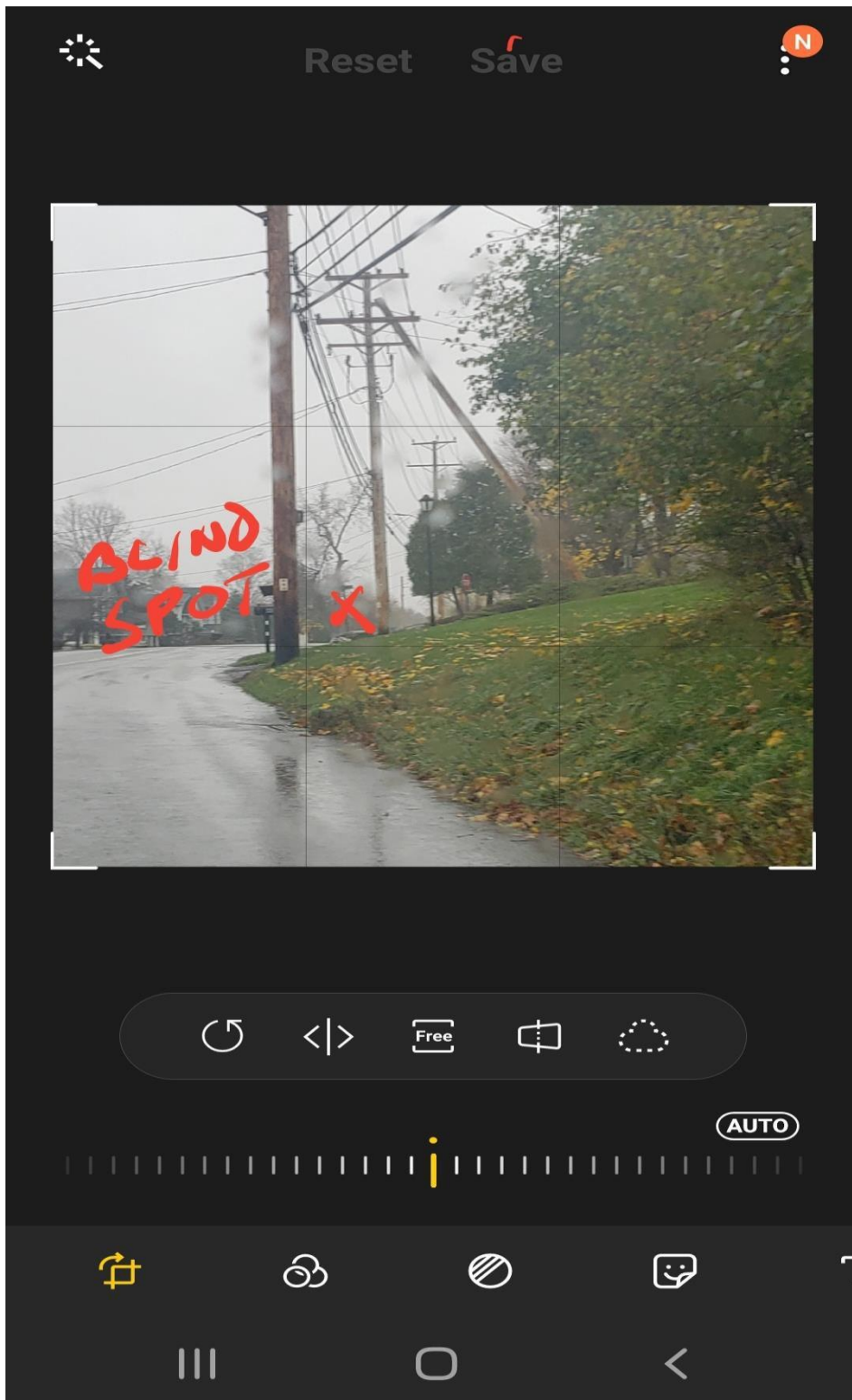
“The situation at Washington Ave & Helen Ct which is the entrance/exit for Glendale Estates. It is a hazardous blind spot as drivers coming east on Washington Ave round a bend in the road approaching Helen Ct. where residents exit Glendale Estates onto Washington Ave. (see picture below).

There have been several close calls recently and I am hoping to avoid accidents/injuries.....including school busses picking up students!

Is it possible to have a sign/flashing light (see picture below) installed to warn drivers of the blind exit round the bend?

I look forward to hearing from you on this important matter. Thank you.”





January: The Committee recommended installing a sign warning motorist of the upcoming turn and blind spot. Matt will propose which sign is appropriate at the February meeting.

February: Collin will write the recommendation for a flashing sign on Washington Ave in front of 470 approaching the intersection with Helen Ct. Matt Dubetsky will provide the location and sign language. Council will take this up March 29th.

March: The Committee will reconsider this recommendation.

3. East Main St. and Spring Valley St.

See below a message from Councilmember Dan Aymar-Blair

"I would like to request that the Traffic & Safety Committee take up a review of the junction of **East Main and Spring Valley**. Several constituents have complained about the dangers posed by this intersection.

Folks going west on East Main don't always signal and speed up regardless of whether they are going down Spring Valley or continuing up East Main. This can cause uncertainty for drivers heading east from either end. Neighbors claim to witness near accidents all the time which is not implausible as I've had some confusing, dangerous situations going through this intersection myself.

I'm not sure what the remedy would be but I believe the intersection should be reviewed for safety improvements."

This intersection is planned for a professional Traffic Safety Study when traffic patterns return closer to their pre-COVID status quo.

January: Police will monitor. This item will appear on the agenda for the February Traffic Safety meeting for an update from the Police.

February: The Police Department monitored the intersection during February and will do so again during March for a final report.

March: The Committee is not recommending additional signage. The Police Department has monitored every day without incident. This item will be removed.

4. Matteawan Rd.

See the message below from a resident.

Painting a crosswalk across Matteawan Road from the foot of the Meadow Ridge Apartment complex driveway across the road to the walkway on BHS property should be pretty simple. As I stated during our meeting, students are constantly walking across the road there with no indication at all for drivers. If another stop sign there seems like it would irritate car drivers too much, surely a painted crosswalk with "stop for pedestrian in crosswalk" signs would be only

sensible.

February: Collin will reach out to the owner/operator of Meadow Ridge Apartment to ask for a safe walkway to be built across the street from the path on the High School Property in order to put a crosswalk at the location.

March: Meadow Ridge management is open to building a sidewalk and will discuss it further with the Building Department.

5. Washington St. East Main St. and Spring St.

See the message below from a business owner at the intersection.

My building got hit and run last night for the second time in the past couple of years, and it's not unprecedented as front of my store is entirely different than from when it was built because a car went through the front of the shop when the Ceeleys owned it.

I have almost been run over on that corner by people deciding that that trip up East Main from Washington is the autobahn of the jeep Thruway.

My only thought for any sort of alleviation is a four-way stop. But I'm open to any kind of suggestion or thought on how to slow that corner down so that it doesn't destroy my livelihood. If the building gets taken out, I'm done. Doesn't seem that unlikely given the frequency of occurrence on that corner. Pretty sure my building and my residence are ward four. If this needs to be taken up with the traffic department I also respectfully request that you forward this to the appropriate people. I will be contacting the Beacon Police Department this morning to file a property damage complaint.

Without the 2 feet of snow on that intersection, This accident would've had the potential to take out a foundational component of my building...and I have tenants upstairs.

February: The Committee will review this intersection during the next meeting.

March: The Committee recommended turning Spring Street into a one-way street heading northwest between Washington St. and East St.

6. Washington Ave. and Helen Ct.

See the message below from a resident.

Washington Ave & Helen Ct is the entrance/exit for Glendale Estates. It is a hazardous blind spot as drivers coming east on Washington Ave round a bend in the road approaching Helen Ct. where residents exit Glendale Estates onto Washington Ave.

There have been several close calls recently and I am hoping to avoid accidents/

injuries.....including school busses picking up students!

Is it possible to have a sign/flashing light installed to warn drivers of the blind exit round the bend?

February: See # 3 of Old Business.

March: See # 3 of Old Business.

➤ **New Business**

1. Rombout Ave. and W. Center St.

The City received a request from a resident for stop signs on South Ave. at the corners of Rombout Ave. and W. Center St.

March: The Police Department will assign a patrol detail at South Ave. and Academy St. and will research previous complaints. Will report back in April.